

EPAUS ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
TELECOMMUNICATIONS CENTER
WASHINGTON, DC 20460**FACSIMILE REQUEST AND COVER SHEET**

PLEASE PRINT IN BLACK INK ONLY

TO

Paul Bitter → REC 11/5

US EPA RECORDS CENTER REGION 5



514981

OFFICE/PHONE

Waste management Division / Remedial Action Br.
886-3

REGION/LAB

Region II

FROM

Kitty Taimi

PHONE

382-2449

MAIL CODE

WH 548 E

OFFICE

HSCD / OERR

DATE

11-5-84

NUMBER OF PAGES TO INCLUDE THIS COVER SHEET

Four (4)

Please number all pages

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October 16, 1984

Mr. Lee Thomas
Assistant Administrator - EPA
401 M St. S.W.
Washington, DC 20460

Dear Mr. Thomas:

It is my understanding you are receiving a memorandum from the office of the Environmental Protection Agency, Region V, Chicago. The purpose of this letter is to encourage your approval of their recommendation and recognize the practicality of using a standard of 28 parts per trillion for carcinogenic compounds and that a granular activated carbon treatment plant should be constructed to meet that standard.

As you may or may not know, the City of St. Louis Park has now been waiting for over 12 months for the approval of the construction of a GAC plant. We are now told that the earliest construction date will be the spring of 1985. This is an intolerable situation, and I can assure you that should this project be delayed any further, the City intends to call to the attention of our citizenry the delays that have been caused by the bureaucracy of the EPA and the inconsistent regulations that have been developed surrounding this project.

We would appreciate an early and prompt response of the action to be taken by your agency.

Very truly yours,

James L. Brimeyer

James L. Brimeyer
City Manager

cc: Senator Dave Durenberger
Senator Rudy Boschwitz
Representative William Frenzel

James L. Brimeyer
City Manager
5005 Minnetonka Boulevard
St. Louis Park, MN. 55416-2290

DRAFT

Dear Mr. Brimeyer,

Thank you for your letter of October 16, 1984, regarding the construction of a granular activated carbon (GAC) treatment plant for the City of St. Louis Park. In your letter, you encouraged the approval of a GAC treatment system designed to meet a standard of 28 parts per trillion (ppt) for removal of carcinogenic compounds. You also expressed concern about delays in the construction of the treatment plant.

or even to non-detection

On June 6, 1984, I approved the construction of a GAC water treatment system as a major component of a plan to restore drinking water quality in St. Louis Park. The approved GAC system will provide treatment to reduce the carcinogenic contaminants in drinking water to a concentration of 2.8 ppt. This level of treatment will provide adequate protection for public health, ~~welfare and the environment.~~ Prior to my approval of the GAC system, the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) Region V Office concurred with the recommended treatment level. The Region V Office continues to support the installation of the approved GAC system.

*of the citizens
of SCLPT
is consistent
with the
policy for
protection of
the supplies.*

whence, there may be some minor fluctuations in the treated water quality, the Agency recommends approval of the GAC system because removal of car. compounds to a level of 2.8 ppt can occur at no add. cost. costs & very little maintenance.

(2)

On August 1, 1984, the EPA issued an administrative order to the Reilly Tar and Chemical Company to design and construct the approved drinking water system. In response to the order, the EPA received a written commitment from the Company to design and construct the GAC system provided that the an appropriate legal agreement could be reached between the EPA, State of Minnesota, Reilly Tar and Chemical Company, and the City of St. Louis Park. The Company has initiated design activities, including pilot studies, and is currently in compliance with EPA's administrative order. Negotiations regarding a consent decree which would include construction of the GAC system by the Company are ongoing.

Should the Company fail to enter into a consent decree for design and construction of the GAC system or should it fail to fully comply with the administrative order, Superfund monies will be used to implement the remedial action. Design funds have already been rebudgeted from monies within the existing cooperative agreement with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA), and funds for construction of the GAC system have been allocated on the EPA's first quarter Fiscal Year 1985 budget. Approval for the MPCA to begin design activities may also be given should the EPA determine that negotiations with Reilly Tar and Chemical Company may jeopardize EPA's commitment to have the GAC system installed before the City of St. Louis Park experiences peak water supply demands during the summer of 1985.

I hope this information if helpful to you. If I can be of additional assistance on this matter, please let me know.

Sincerely yours,

Lee M. Thomas
Assistant Administrator